

EHS-Net Water

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“The views expressed do not necessarily represent the views of CDC or HHS.”



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**Environmental Health
Specialists Network
(EHS-Net)
www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs**



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How EHS-Net Fits in the CDC Organization

- Rob Blake, Chief, Environmental Health Services Branch
- Debbie Bankston, Deputy Branch Chief
- Teams
 - Revitalization of Environmental Health Services (Carol Selman, Team Lead)
 - Innovation In Environmental Health Services (Charles Otto, Team Lead)
 - Global Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (Rick Gelting, Team Lead)



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Environmental Health Services Branch: Vision

Leading the way to effective, well recognized, systems-based environmental health services that results in prevention of environmentally related disease



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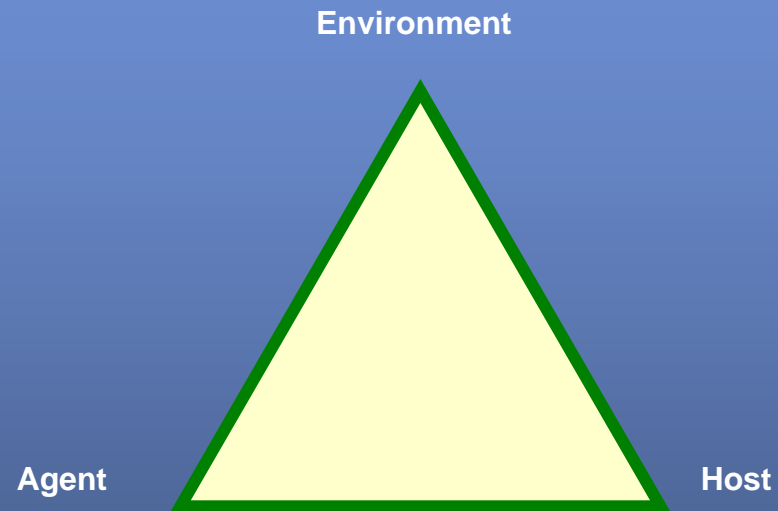
Environmental Health Services Branch: Mission

Improve environmental health services and develop the environmental health professionals who deliver those services to prevent adverse environmental exposure and health consequences for the public



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EHS-Net



EHS-Net

- What is the network?
 - States and federal agencies involved
 - Industry involvement
- What are the network goals?
- What is the network 'life cycle'?
 - How long does the cycle last?
 - How are state participants selected?

EHS-Net Target Audience

- Environmental Public Health Specialists
 - Environmental Health Specialists
 - Sanitarians
 - Inspectors
- Environmental Public Health Service Programs
 - Food
 - Water
 - Onsite Waste Disposal
 - Vector / Rodent Control

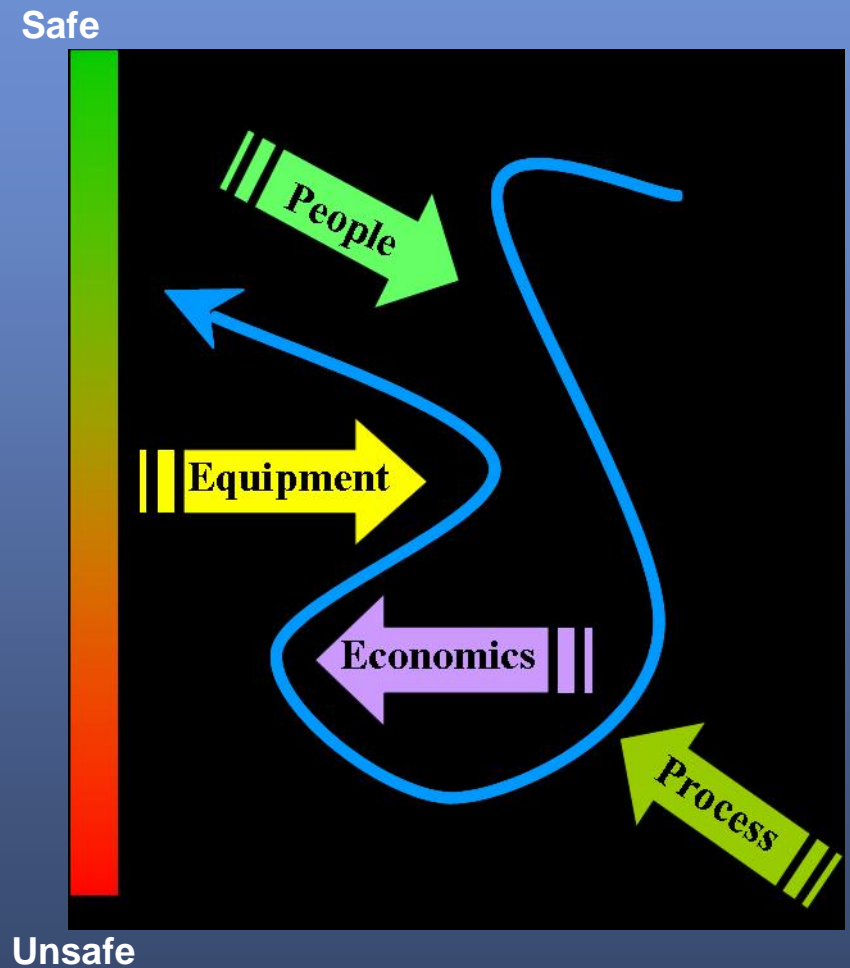


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EHS-Net Language

Contributing factor—
“What” happened to cause illness

Environmental antecedent—
“Why” the failure happened



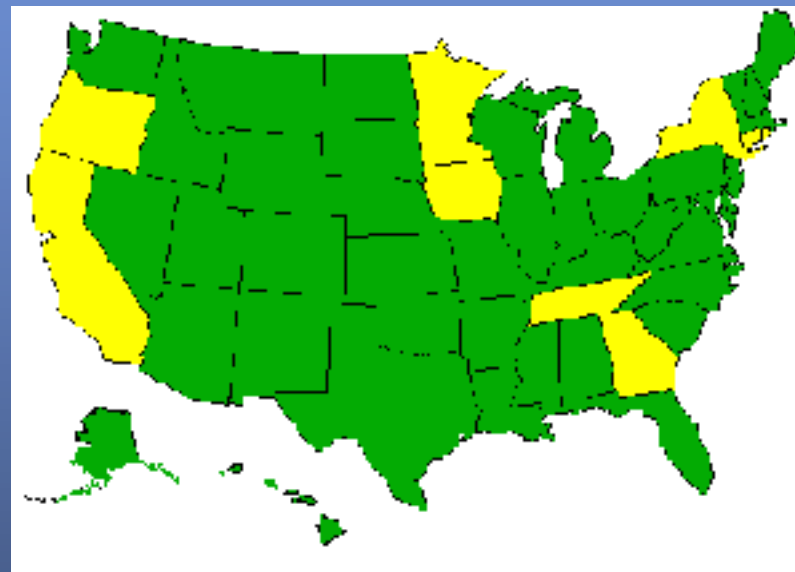
EHS-Net: Where Is It?

2000–2004

- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Georgia
- Minnesota
- New York
- Oregon
- Tennessee

2005–2009

- California*
- Connecticut
- Georgia*
- Iowa
- Minnesota*
- New York*
- Oregon
- Rhode Island
- Tennessee*



Federal Partners:
CDC, FDA, USDA,
EPA

EHS-Net Goals

- Identify contributing factors and environmental antecedents to illness and disease outbreaks
- Translate findings into improved prevention efforts using a systems approach
- Offer training opportunities to current and future environmental health specialists
- Strengthen collaboration among epidemiology, laboratory, and food & water safety programs



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EHS-Net 'Life Cycle'

- 5-year cooperative agreement ends 2009
- New cycle 2010–2014
- Selection process



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EHS-Net 'Life Cycle'

- \$150,000 maximum award (water)
- Hire an Environmental Health Specialist to manage and implement EHS-Net projects / in-kind communicable disease control program support (epidemiology)



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EHS-Net Water Priorities

- Improve surveillance for waterborne disease
- Enhance outbreak-related environmental investigations
- Improve prevention



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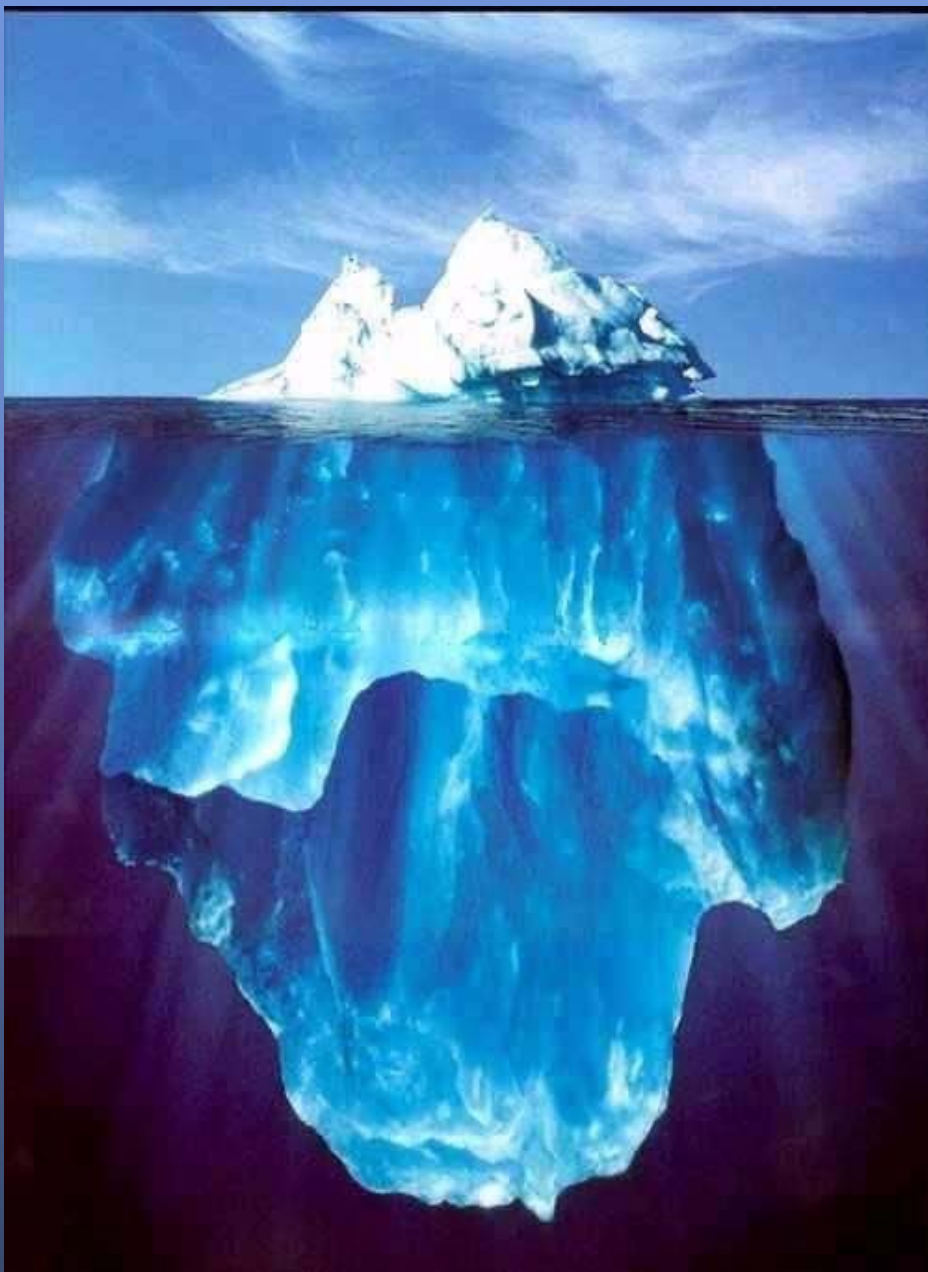
Waterborne Disease Surveillance Reports to CDC

- New York: 4 outbreaks, 1978–2002
- Minnesota: 98 outbreaks, 1972–2006
- Tennessee: 13 outbreaks, 1972–2006

Do *you* believe these were all of the outbreaks?



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**Are we seeing only
the tip?**



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Waterborne-Disease Outbreak Surveillance System

- Voluntary
- Passive
- Paper-based
- Unfunded
- Annual solicitation of standardized reports from state and territorial health departments

EHS-Net Investigation Results

- New York: 49 (92% not reported) outbreaks, 1978–2002
- Minnesota: 105 (7% not reported) outbreaks, 1972–2006
- Tennessee: 30 (59% not reported) outbreaks, 1972–2006

EHS-Net Investigation Results

- New York: 2005: 11 outbreaks;
2006; 10 outbreaks
(mean 2.1, range 0–6, 1978–2002)
- Minnesota: 2007: 8 outbreaks
(mean 4.4, range 0–10, 1972–2006)
- Tennessee: 2007: 7 outbreaks
(mean 1.2, range 0–4, 1972–2006)

Waterborne Disease Surveillance

- If you look:



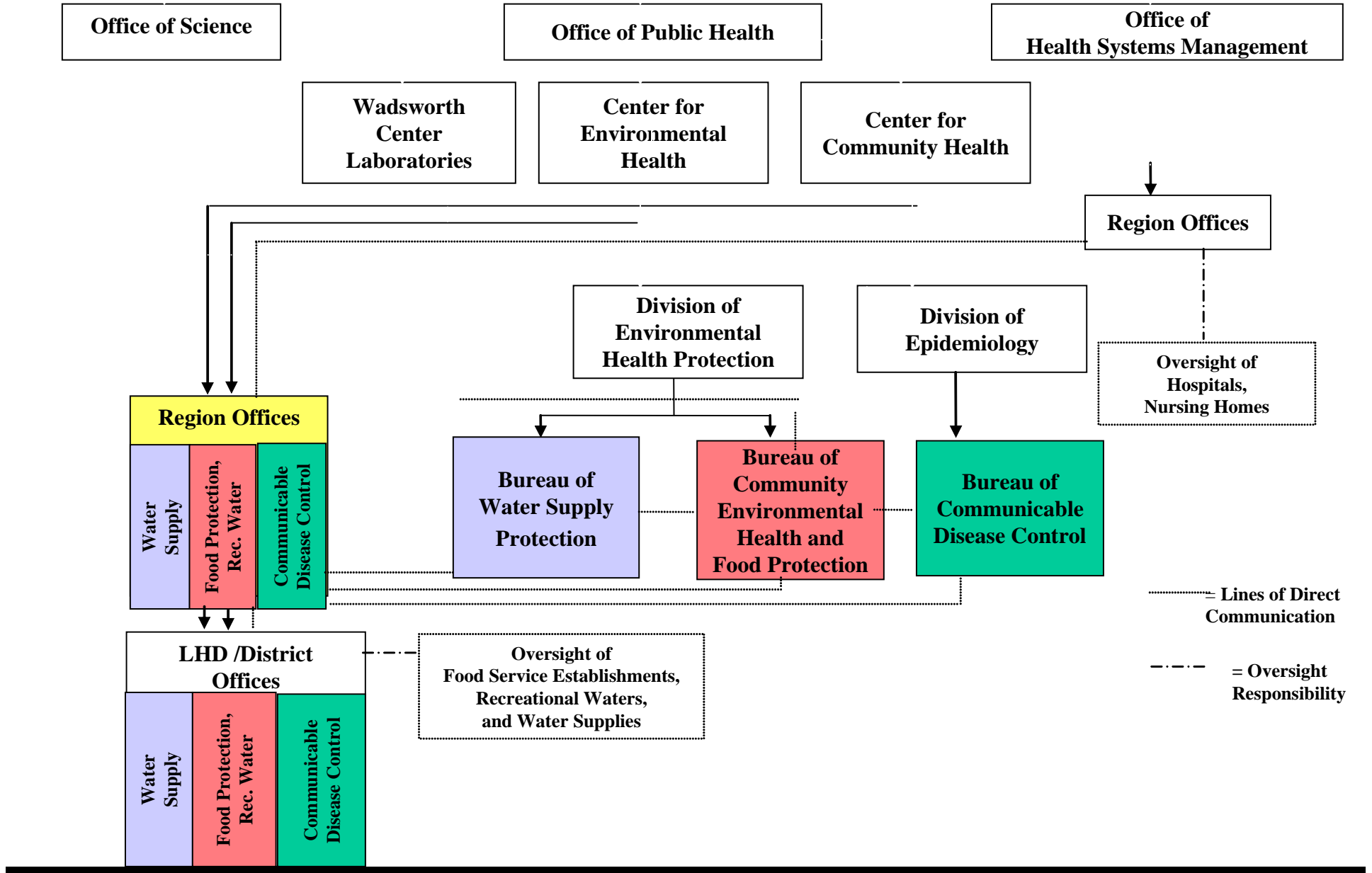
— You find!



Part of the Problem: Who Has Responsibility for Water Issues?

- Tennessee: 9 agencies (federal, state, local, utilities)
- New York: 12 agencies (state, local, utilities)
- Minnesota: 8 agencies (state, local, utilities)

NYSDOH Organizational Chart/Food and Water Safety



EHS-Net Water Multistate Projects

- Improve waterborne disease surveillance
- Environmental health outbreak investigation survey
- *MMWR* articles
- Assistance to the new EHS-Net water states

EHS-Net Water State Individual Projects

- Tennessee: Water System Complaint Log Survey
- New York: small water system study and technical guidance
- Minnesota: *E. coli* in water project
- California and Georgia: surveillance and review of records

Where Is EHS-Net Going?

- Continue with existing activities in the existing states
- Expand into other areas of water safety: agricultural water, onsite waste water (UNM research project), recreational water

CDC Water-Related Activities

- National Outbreak Reporting System (NORS)
 - Electronic reporting
 - Outbreaks resulting from waterborne, foodborne, person-to-person, and zoonotic transmission
 - Improved surveillance
 - Improved public health practice

CDC Water-Related Information: Healthy Water Web Site

- Access all CDC water-related information in one place
 - All types of water
 - <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/healthywater/>

The screenshot shows the CDC website's 'Healthy Drinking Water' page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'CDC Home', 'About CDC', 'Press Room', 'A-Z Index', and 'Contact Us'. The CDC logo and the text 'Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention' are visible. A search bar is located on the right. The main content area is titled 'Parasitic Diseases' and 'Healthy Drinking Water'. It includes a 'Topic Contents' sidebar with links to 'Parasites Home', 'Parasites and Parasitic Diseases', 'About Parasites', 'A-Z Index of Parasites', 'Glossary', 'Resources', 'Specific Topics' (Animals, Bloodborne, Drinking Water, Food, Laboratory Diagnosis, Malaria, Recreational Water, Travel), and 'Information for Specific Groups' (Blood Donor Screening, Children). The main text discusses the importance of safe drinking water and mentions 'NEW! National Drinking Water Week, May 4-10, 2008'. It also lists 'CDC Features', 'Podcast', and 'MMWR: Notice to Readers'. Other sections include 'World Water Day, March 22, 2008' and 'National Groundwater Awareness Week, March 9-15, 2008'. On the right side, there are links for 'Email this page', 'Printer-friendly version', 'Quick Links' (A-Z Index of Parasitic Diseases, Glossary), 'Programs & Campaigns' (Healthy Swimming, President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), Healthy Drinking Water, Healthy Pets, Healthy People), and 'Contact Information' (Call: 800-CDC-INFO, E-mail: cdcinfo@cdc.gov).



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Contact Information

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